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CAMPBELL • ZONNO • DESANTIAGO

#5

I HEART SKULL CRUSHER!



I HEART SKULL-CRUSHER!

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QUEEN VIBES NATIONAL SCREAMING PAIN BALL TOURNAMENT

THIS IS A FINALS TO REMEMBER, FOLKS!

A BATTLE ROYALE...


...IN THE BIGGEST ARENA IN THE HISTORY OF SCREAMING PAIN BALL!

A LEGEND HAS BEEN UNLEASHED ON THE FIELD. AND JUST FOR THIS MATCH, THE RULES ARE CHANGED--SO SHE CAN GAIN POINTS FOR MURDERING PLAYERS WITHOUT THE BALL!

AND TO TOP IT ALL OFF, WE HAVE A RANDOM ELEMENT IN PLAY.

YOU KNOW HER. YOU LOVE HER. YOU ARE LEGALLY REQUIRED TO WATCH HER.





GIVE IT
UP FOR...

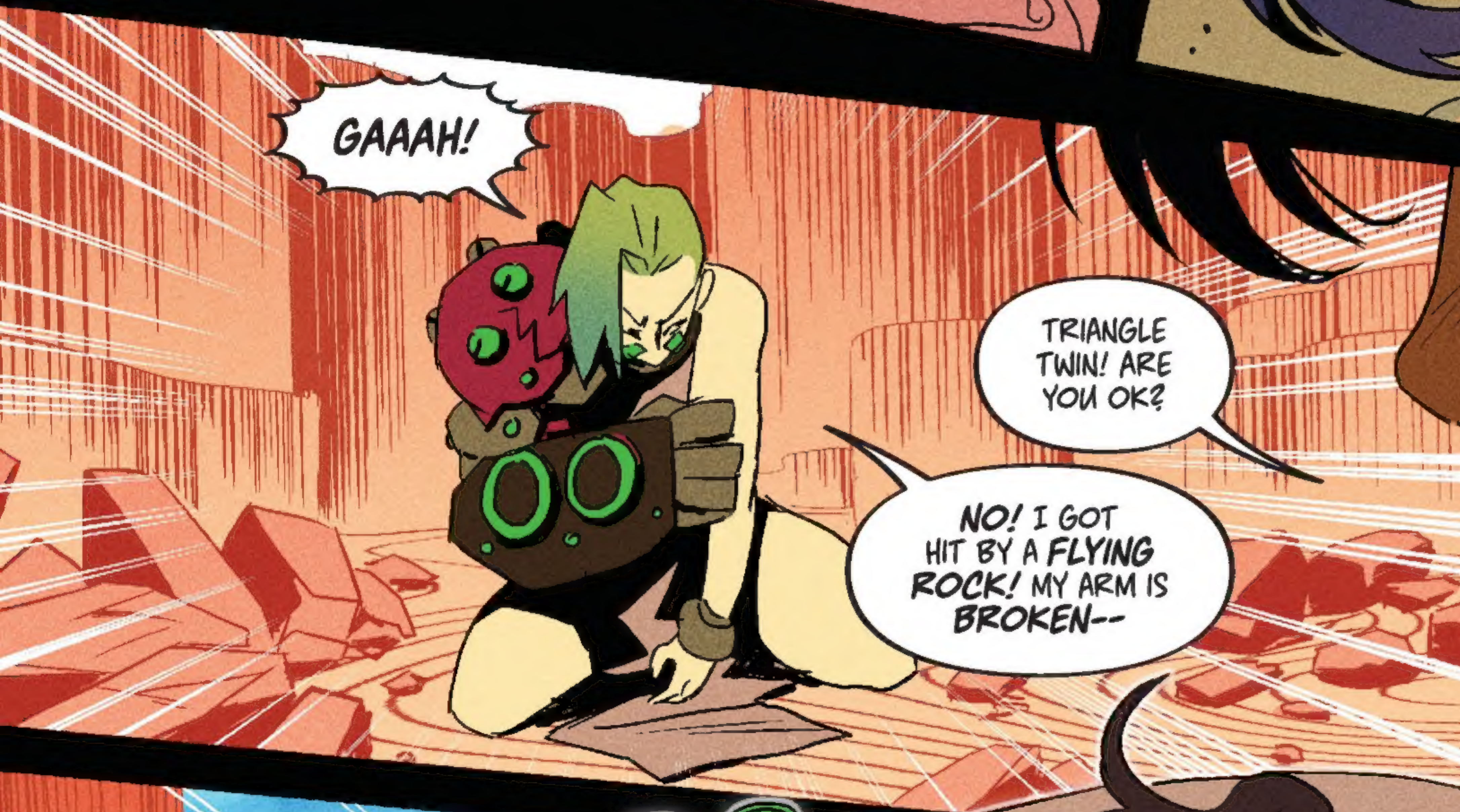
...**SKULL-CRUSHER!**



OH MY GOD!
SKULL-CRUSHER'S
GOING TO KILL
US!



OH MY GOD.
SKULL-CRUSHER'S
GOING TO KILL
US.



GAAAH!

TRIANGLE
TWIN! ARE
YOU OK?

NO! I GOT
HIT BY A FLYING
ROCK! MY ARM IS
BROKEN--



WHAT ARE
YOU DOING?!

RUNNING!
I CAN'T FIGHT
SKULL-CRUSHER
AND PROTECT
YOU!

"WE NEED
TO FIND THE
OTHERS!"

YOU
RATS MIGHT
HAVE CRAWLED
UP THE
RANKS...

...BUT
NOW THE
NUNS OF SAINT
SLAUGHTER
STAND IN YOUR
WAY!

"...THAT THEY'RE
STILL ALIVE."

WHAM

"AND WE
HAVE TO
HOPE..."

CLICK

BOOOOOOOOM

SIBLING?
IS THAT YOU--

DON'T
LOOK AWAY,
SCUM!

WHAT
AN AMAZING
START!

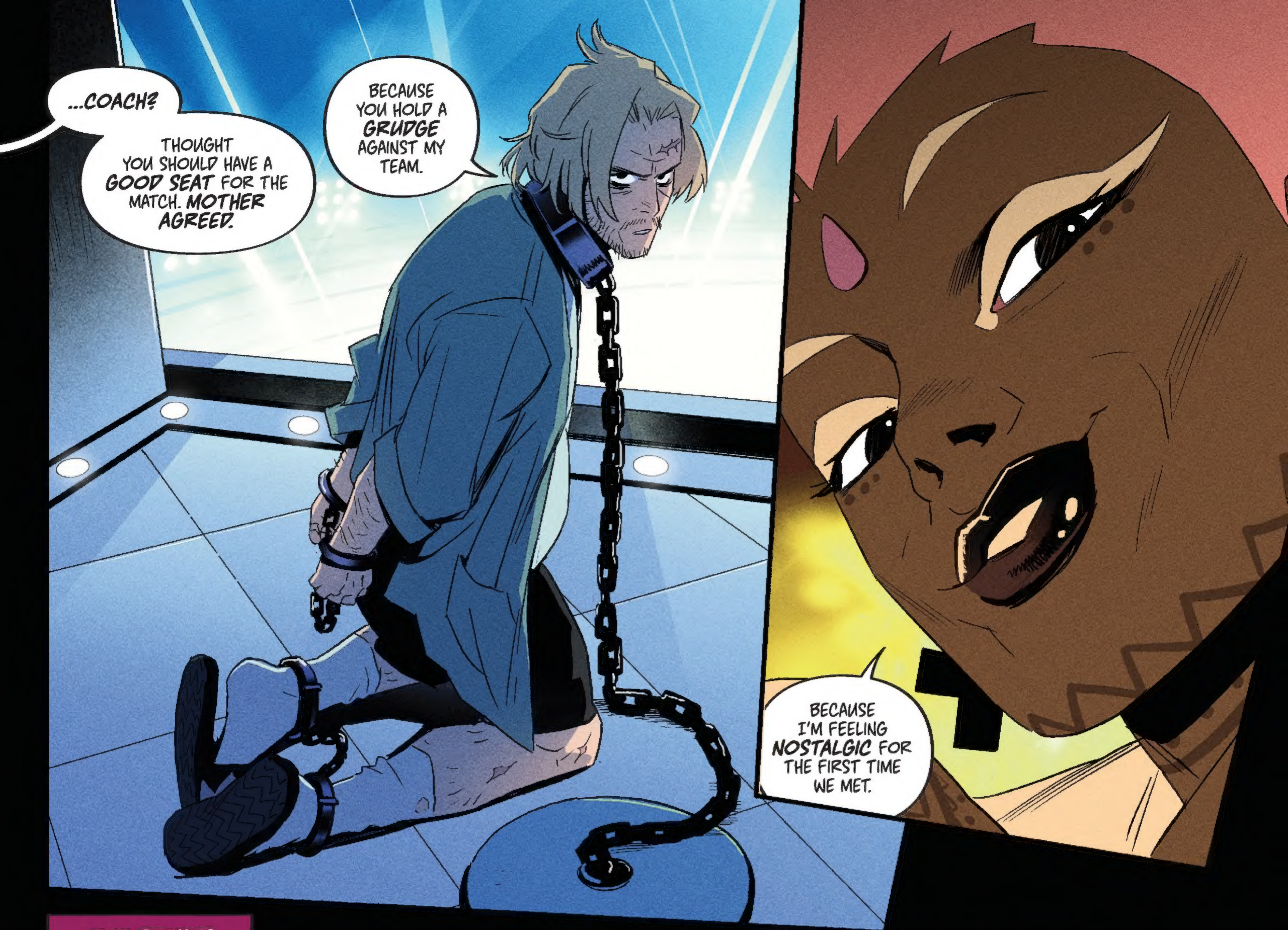
WITH THE
BALL HIDDEN, THE
TEAMS HAVE TURNED
TO MURDER
POINTS...

...BUT
EVERYTHING
COULD CHANGE
WITH THE TYRANT
SURPRISE!

THE
ROCKET
BOOSTERS
ARE READY,
SIR.

YOU WILL
ADDRESS ME AS
YOUR DREAD
LORDSHIP.

ISN'T THAT
RIGHT...



...COACH?

THOUGHT
YOU SHOULD HAVE A
GOOD SEAT FOR THE
MATCH. MOTHER
AGREEP.

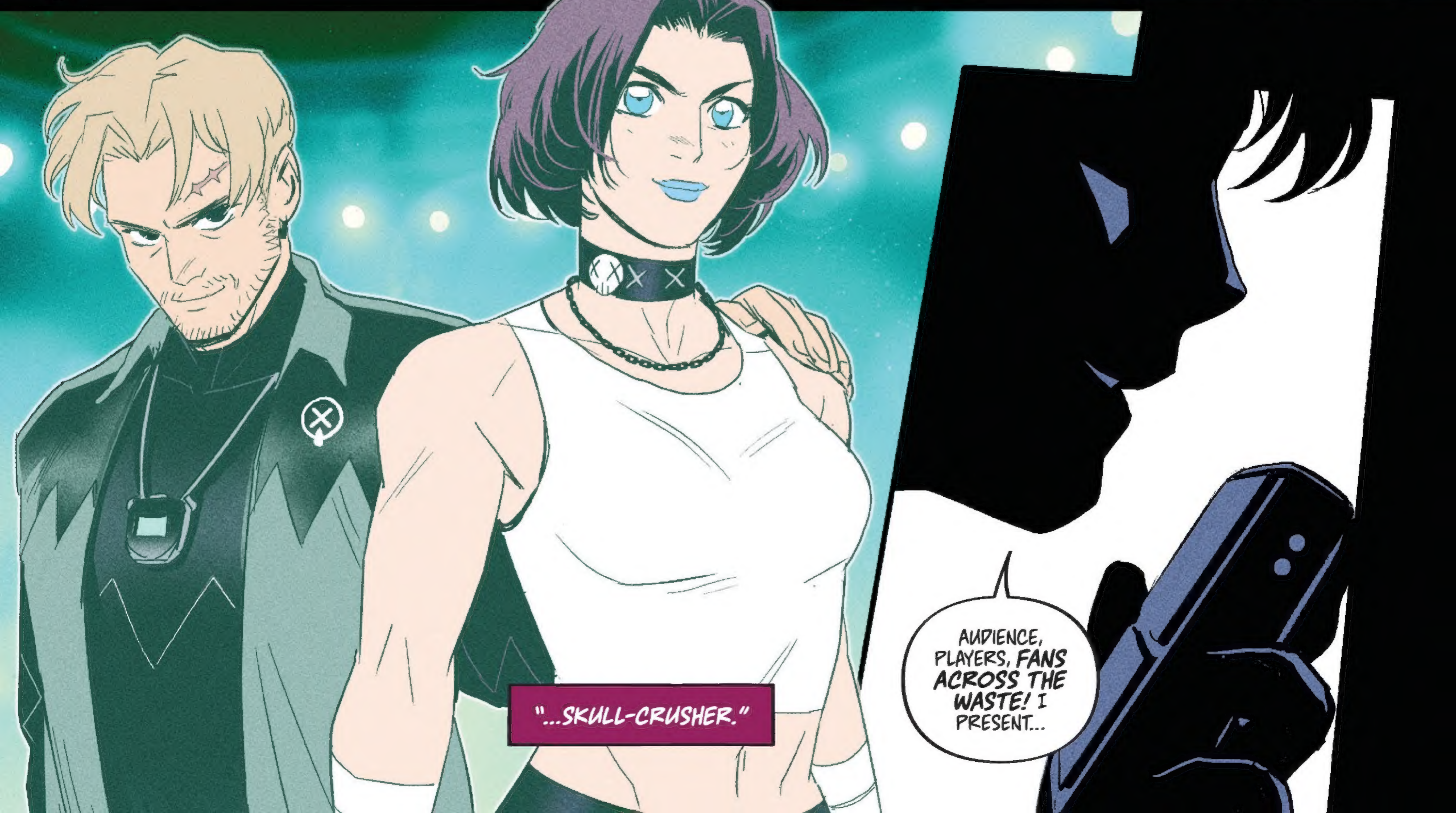
BECAUSE
YOU HOLD A
GRUDGE
AGAINST MY
TEAM.

BECAUSE
I'M FEELING
NOSTALGIC FOR
THE FIRST TIME
WE MET.

"THAT PRIVATE
MATCH, ALL THOSE
YEARS AGO.



"THE ONE THAT DETERMINED WHO WOULD
JOIN MY NEW LEAGUE. WHERE YOU
DEBUTED YOUR BELOVED PROTEGÉE...



"...SKULL-CRUSHER."

AUDIENCE,
PLAYERS, FANS
ACROSS THE
WASTE! I
PRESENT...

...MY TYRANT'S
SURPRISE!

WELL,
PODUNK?

HOW
DO YOU
LIKE ME
NOW?

AAAGH

AAAIE

GYAAHH

CRAAAAAACK

FWOOSH





EVERYONE,
PULL--

WHAM

WHOOOOOSH

WELL,
CRAP.

AHHHHHH!

WHAM

"EVERYTHING
IS RIDING ON
THIS GAME."



"...AND THAT'S
GOING TO BE US!"





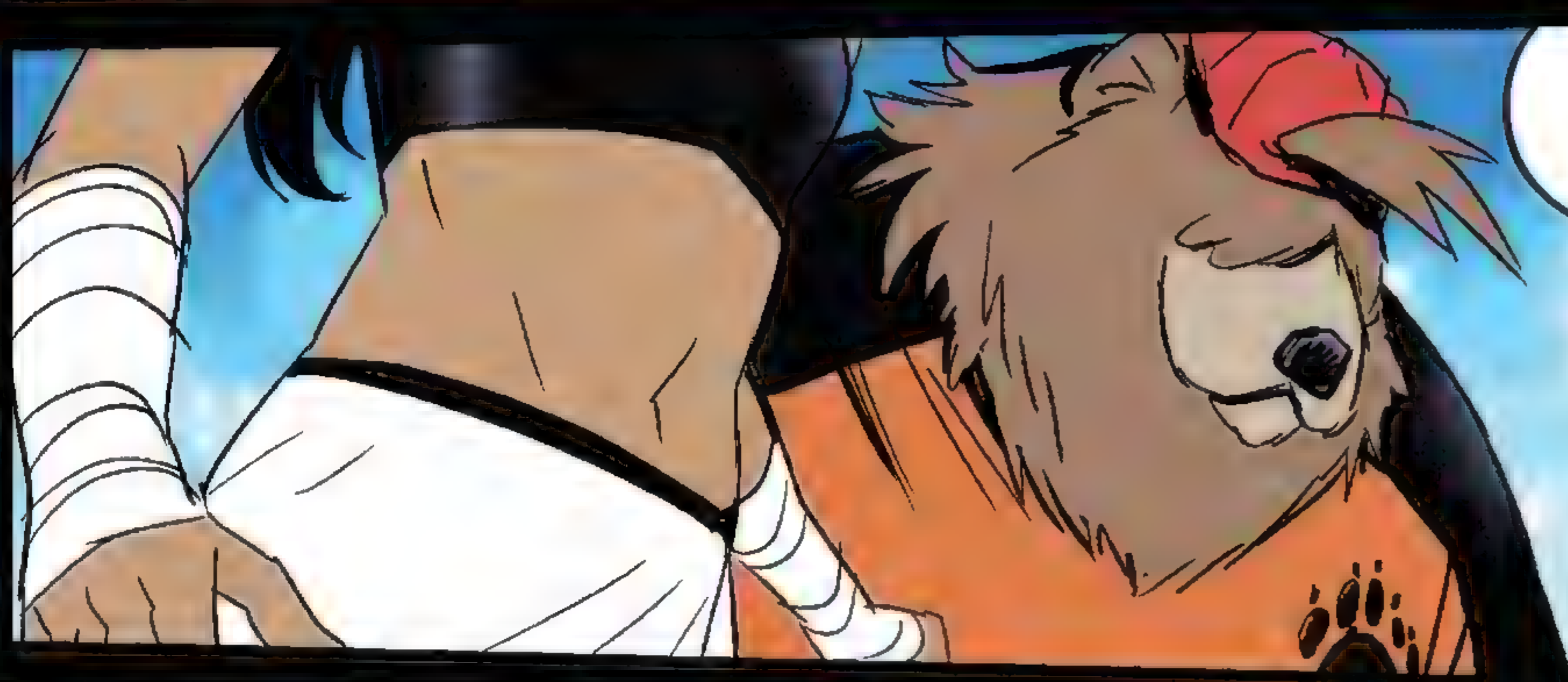
I NEED YOU!
YOU AND YOUR
SIBLING ARE OUR
PERFECT
DEFENSE,
REMEMBER?

I DON'T
EVEN KNOW
YOUR NAME
YET! SO STAY
WITH US--

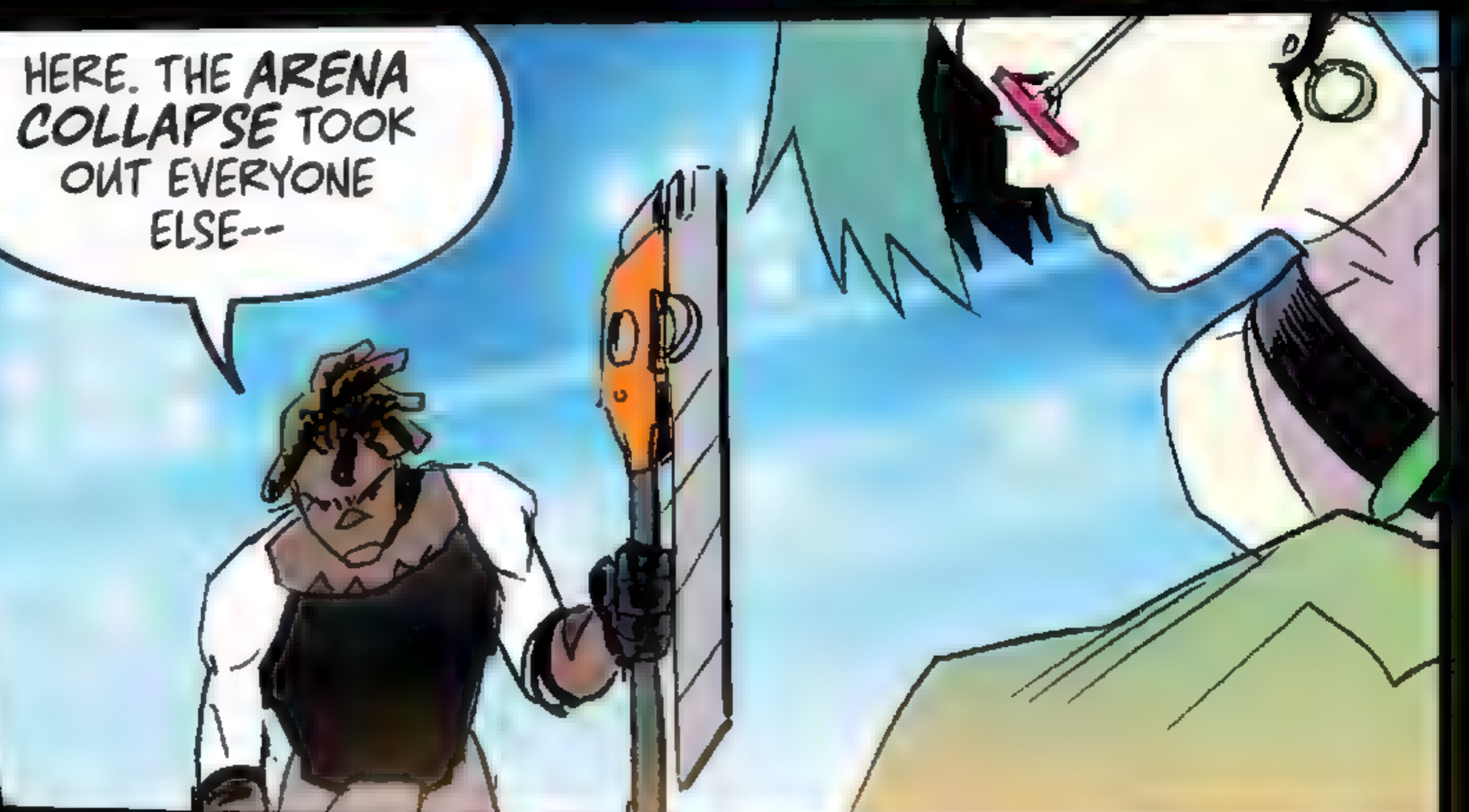


SIBLING!
YOU'RE
HURT!

WHERE'S
DAN?



HERE. THE ARENA
COLLAPSE TOOK
OUT EVERYONE
ELSE--



WHICH
IS WHY I TOLD
YOU AT THE
BALL...

...YOU
CAN'T WIN
THIS.



IT WAS
YOU I SPOKE
TO IN THE
SHADOWS.

"TRINI!"

"R-RIGHT!"



"SHE'S DOING HER TOSS
AND DODGE MOVE!
WE'VE TRAINED FOR
THIS. DAN--"

LET'S
SEE YOU DODGE
THIS, SOON TO BE
SECOND BEST
PLAYER--



YOU
STUDIED ME.
DID YOU REALLY
THINK...



...I WOULDN'T
DO THE SAME?

AHHH!



YOU RELY
ON YOUR
TEAM...

CRASH



...TO THE
DETIMENT OF
YOURSELF.

WHUMPH



YOUR
STRATEGY...

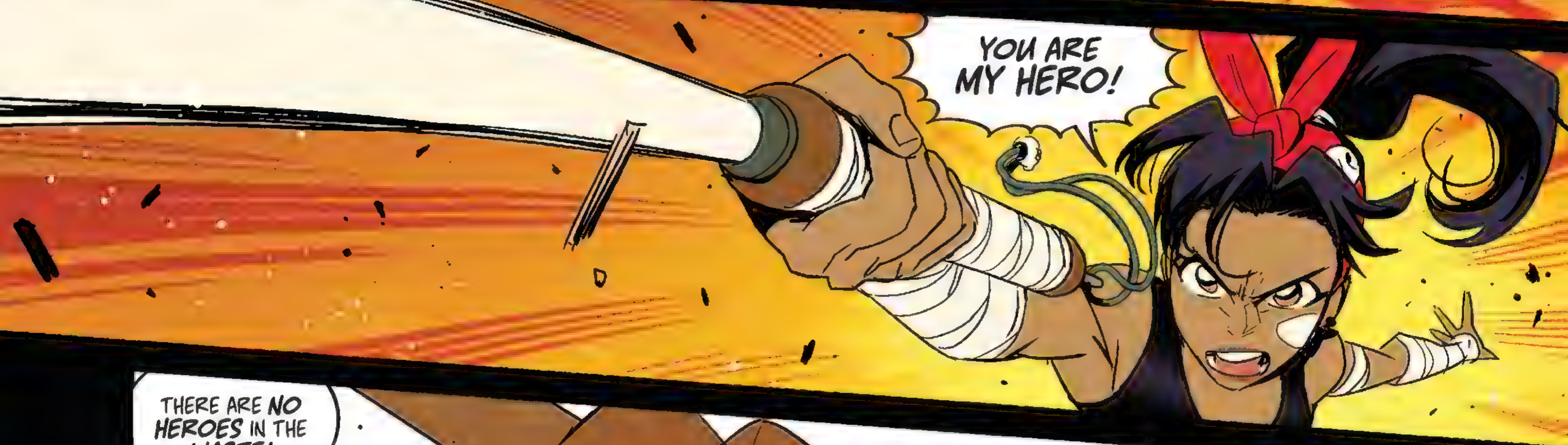


...IS
THE TACTIC
OF THE
WEAK.





IT'S NOT WEAK!
I BASED EVERYTHING OFF YOU!



YOU ARE MY HERO!

THERE ARE NO HEROES IN THE WASTE!



YOU ARE WHY ALL OF US ARE HERE! YOU ARE OUR HERO--

STOP SAYING THAT!

NO! I'VE SEEN ALL YOUR MATCHES--

NOT THE FIRST ONE!



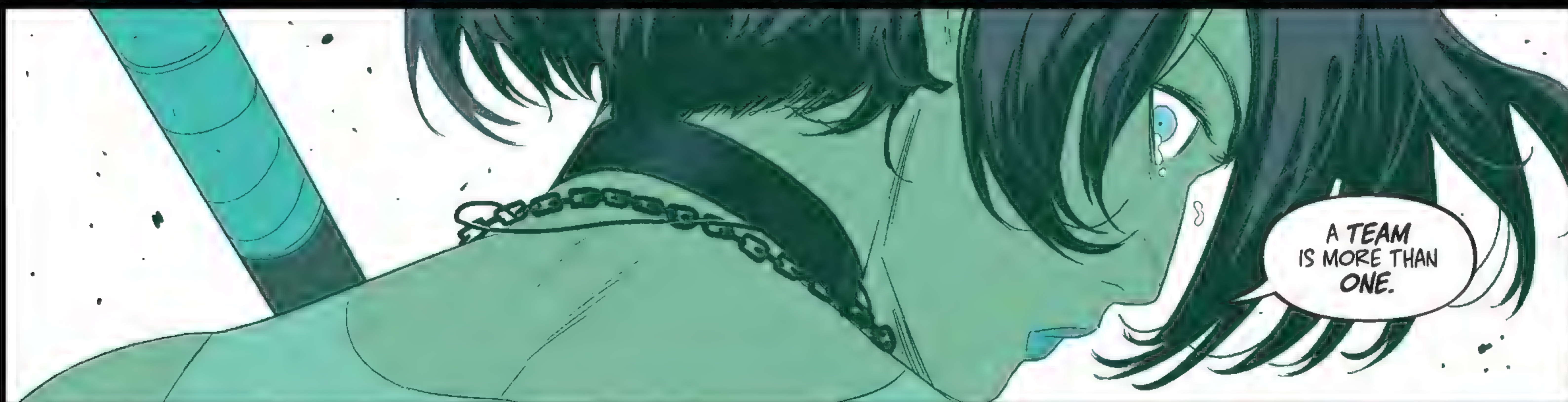
SKULL-CRUSHER'S TEAM IS MOMENTS AWAY FROM SUCCUMBING TO THEIR INJURIES.

WHEN THEY DO, THE DEFENDERS WILL EARN FOUR MURDER POINTS. ENOUGH TO WIN.



"IF I WAS A HERO..."

THERE CAN ONLY BE ONE AT THE TOP.



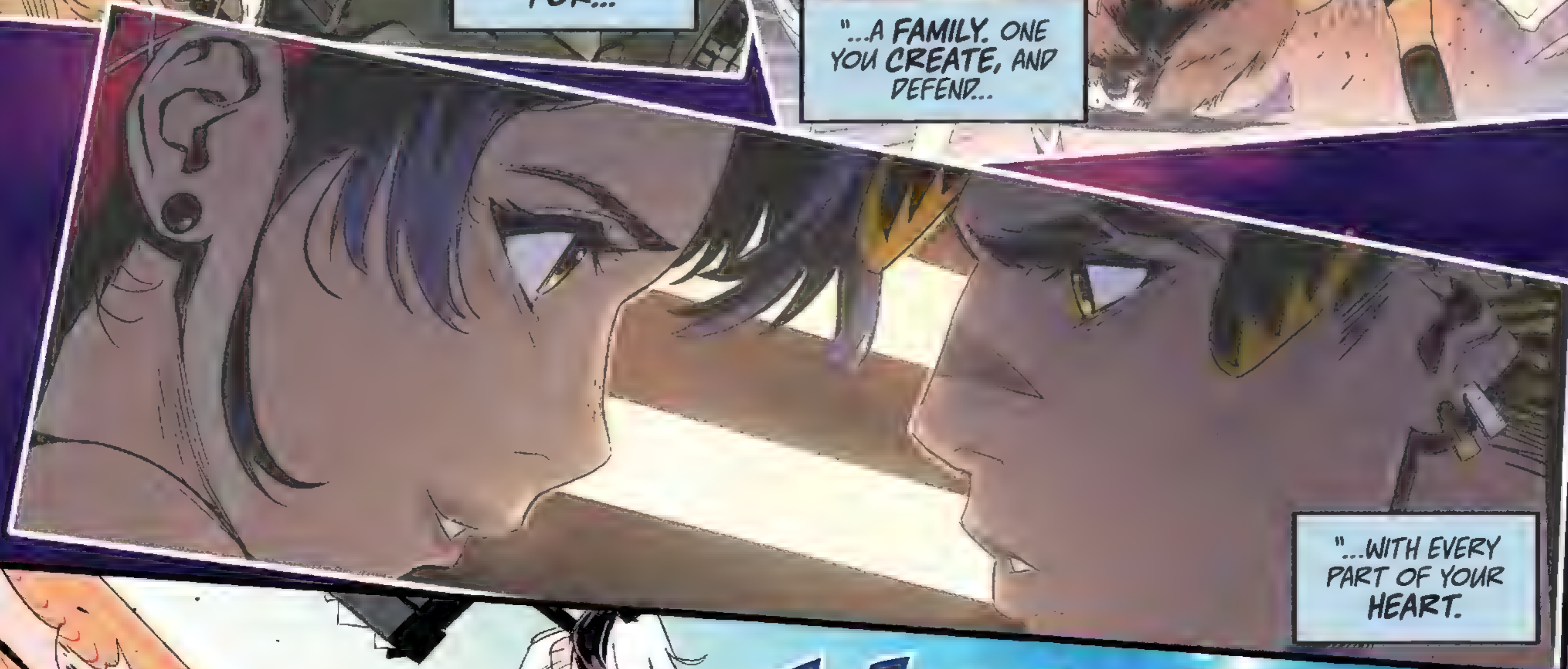
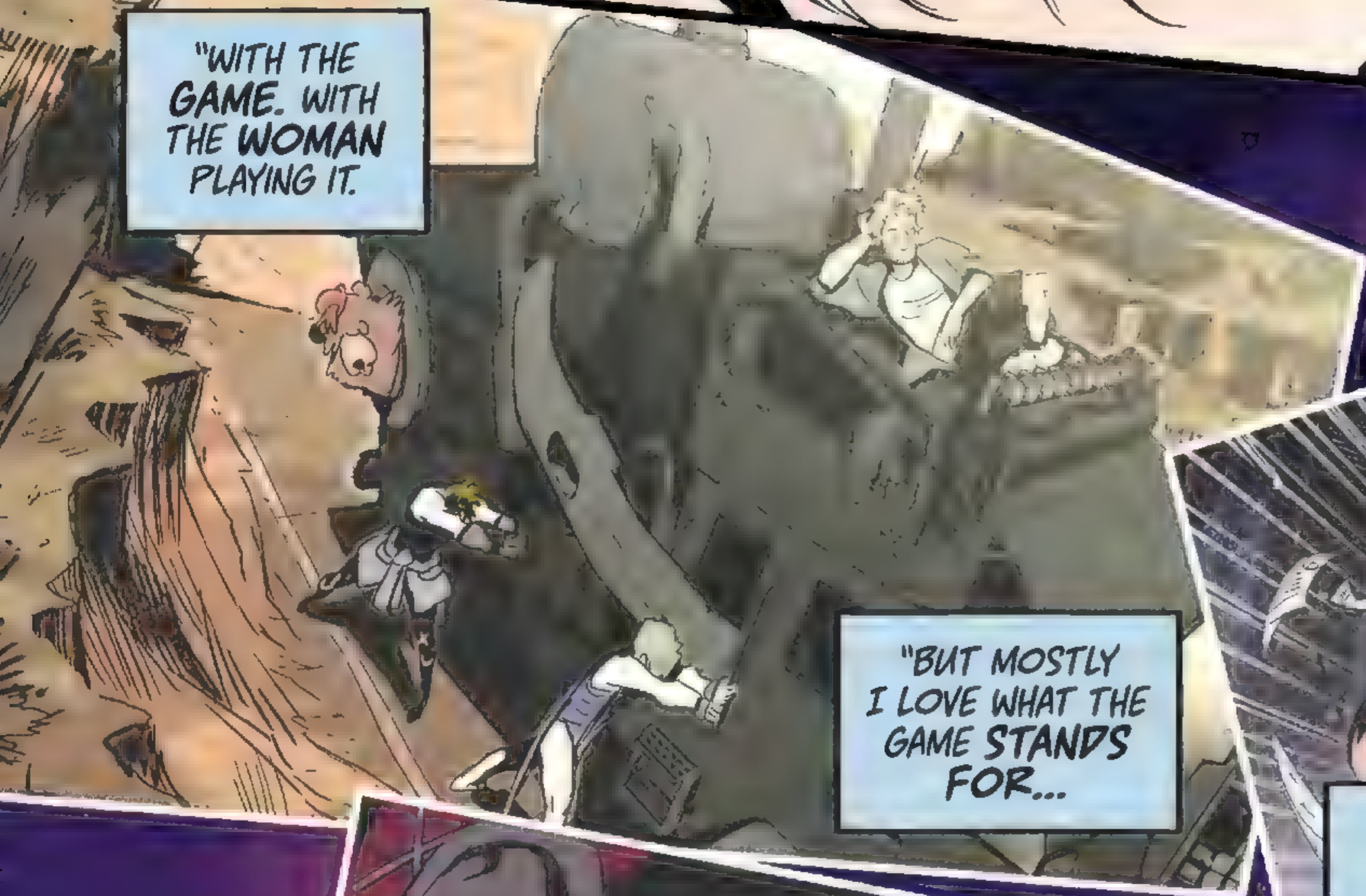
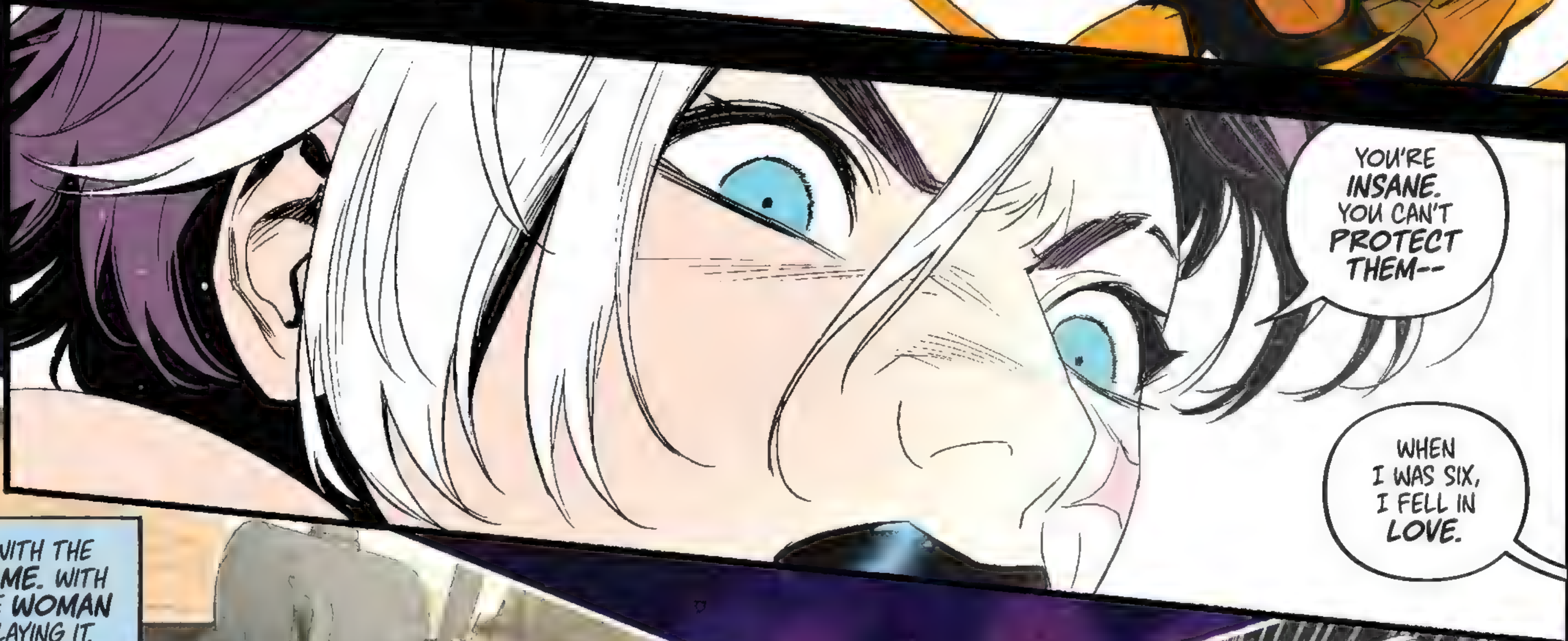
A TEAM IS MORE THAN ONE.



"WELL, I'M NOT A HERO."

CRUNCH







"BEING UNABLE
TO DREAM."

WHAT A TWIST!
SKULL-CRUSHER'S BLOW
SENT TRINI WASTELANDER
CLEAR ACROSS THE
ARENA...

THUMP

...RIGHT
TO WHERE THE
BALL WAS
HIDDEN!



"BEING UNABLE TO HOPE FOR
A FUTURE WHERE YOU CAN
LOVE AND BE LOVED."

"MY DREAM IS TO WIN AGAINST
IMPOSSIBLE ODDS..."



"...FOR THEM."

"I KNOW
MY DREAM IS
INSANE..."

HOLY BAD
WEEK! WITH ONLY THIRTY
SECONDS LEFT ON THE
CLOCK...



...BUT INSANE
DREAMS ARE THE
ONLY ONES WORTH
HAVING!

...PODUNK
JUST
SCORED!

HAHAHAHAHAHA!

DID YOU
SEE THAT!?
SHE'S STILL
PLAYING!

PODUNK
WINS!

NO, SHE LOSES.
SKULL-CRUSHER HAS
MORE MURDER
POINTS--

NOT
AGAINST PODUNK.
THEY'RE ALL STILL
ALIVE.

TRINI
JUST SCORED
THE MOST
POINTS.

NO.
IT'S NOT
OVER--

YOU'RE ONLY
HERE BECAUSE
I FIND YOU FUNNY.
DON'T PUSH
IT.

SHINK

I'M YOUR
SON...

YOU'RE
NOT THE
ONLY
ONE.

RIGHT
NOW...I'M
CONSIDERING A
CHANGE OF
HEIR.

CALL
IT.

THAT'S T-TIME,
FOLKS.

THE
WINNER
IS...

...PODUNK
LIL' TEAM!!

YOU
DID IT. YOU
DID IT!

THE WINNER IS
Podunk
LIL' TEAM '8
SCORE


HELL
YES! AND MY
NAME IS VICK
YOU INSANE
WOMAN!

I'M VIA!
REMEMBER
IT!

WE...WE'RE IN
THE OFFICIAL
LEAGUE!

WE'RE
ALL JOINING
SKULL-CRUSHER'S
TEAM...



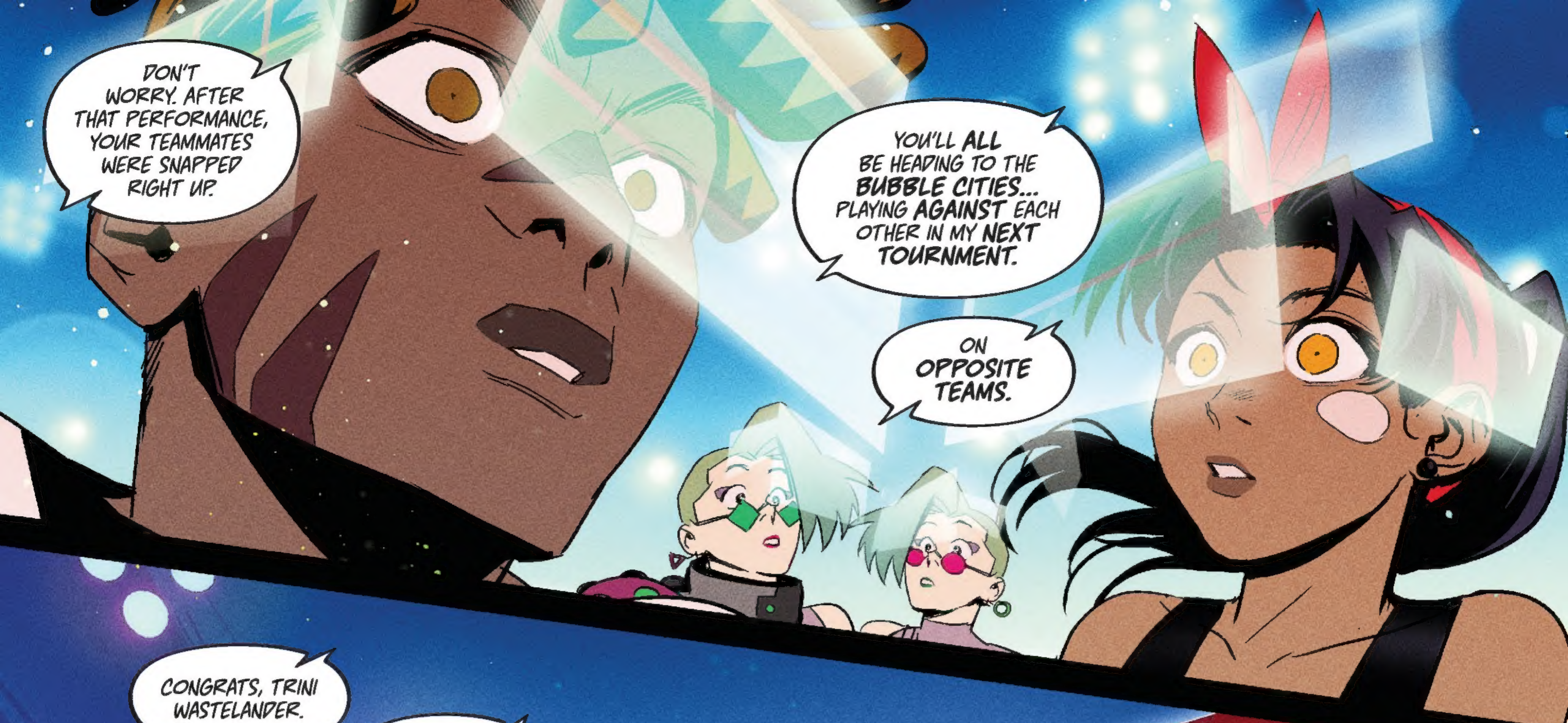


"WE'RE JOINING
SKULL-CRUSHER."

HA! I NEVER
SAID THE WINNERS
WOULD JOIN
SKULL-CRUSHER.

I SAID
THE WINNER.
SINGULAR.

AS IN
JUST THE TEAM
CAPTAIN.



DON'T WORRY. AFTER THAT PERFORMANCE, YOUR TEAMMATES WERE SNAPPED RIGHT UP.

YOU'LL ALL BE HEADING TO THE BUBBLE CITIES... PLAYING AGAINST EACH OTHER IN MY NEXT TOURNAMENT.

ON OPPOSITE TEAMS.

CONGRATS, TRINI WASTELANDER.

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO WIN?



The family Trini has created... are the ones she'll have to KILL in the LEAGUE!

The action CONTINUES in our NEXT STORY ARC:
I HEART SKULL-CRUSHER! BUBBLE CITY BLUES.